

protect agriculture. Sign onto the Point Reyes Farmland Protection Act, H.R. 2202.

URGING MEMBERS TO SUPPORT VALIANT MEN AND WOMEN FASTING FOR DEMOCRACY IN CUBA

(Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, the courageous fasts that began last week in Havana are gaining momentum as dozens of dissidents across the enslaved island of Cuba join the public protest started in Tamarindo 34, peacefully demanding freedom of expression and the release of hundreds of political prisoners.

One of the heroines currently fasting is Magaly de Armas, wife of Vladimiro Roca, one of the four opposition members imprisoned earlier this year for criticizing a communist party document that they dared to say did not present solutions to Cuba's problems.

Roca is also fasting, his will unshaken by Castro's torturous prison in Cienfuegos, and has asked his countrymen to join him in what is becoming a national movement.

On behalf of Vladimiro Roca, Felix Bonne, Rene Gomez Manzano, Marta Beatriz Roque Cabello, and all of the other political prisoners unjustly shackled by Fidel Castro, I ask my colleagues to support the valiant men and women currently fasting. We pray that their courageous democracy efforts become the beginning of true liberty on the island.

DISAPPOINTING LEGISLATION FROM THE HOUSE LEADERSHIP ON GUN SAFETY AND SCHOOL VIOLENCE

(Ms. SANCHEZ asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. SANCHEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, disappointed in this House. I come from the district in California with the highest gun registration. Four years ago, when I ran for Congress and I walked 60,000 households door-to-door, I came across a lot of those gun owners, hunters, people who liked to go down to the range and shoot their guns, people who collect guns.

But they agreed with me, they agreed that decent people who want to own guns do not mind waiting to have their background checked. They agreed that there were too many weapons in criminals' hands, especially in an urban area like the one I represent.

That was before Jonesboro, that was before Littleton, and that was before last week, just this past weekend, when one of our deputy sheriffs in Orange

County was sitting in his patrol car and was gunned down, riddled by someone with a machine gun who was mad because this officer had stopped him 3 weeks before.

Mr. Speaker, we need real legislation to help America.

ELDER BASEBALL TEAM EXTENDS INCREDIBLE TITLE STREAK

(Mr. CHABOT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, Cincinnati's Elder High School took it down to the wire last week when their great baseball team traveled to Canton, Ohio, to play for the State championship. When the smoke cleared, the Panthers had accomplished a truly extraordinary feat. They had succeeded in winning a State title in 6 consecutive decades with 11 championships overall.

My brother, Ron, is a 1965 Elder graduate. I am an alumnus of arch rival LaSalle. I have to give credit where credit is due, Elder's accomplishment is phenomenal, and all of us who reside in Cincinnati's Western Hills are proud of their great achievement. Their commitment to excellence and their tradition of hard work have paid off. Once again they have made all of Cincinnati proud.

To coach Mark Thompson, the Panther squad, and all their families and fans, I offer my heartfelt congratulations.

From an old Lancer to all the Panthers, well done.

CALLING ATTENTION TO WEBSITE AND FAMILY INTERNET TOOLBOX

(Mr. HOLT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, as a member of the Committee on Education and the Workforce, I know an important part of controlling youth violence is controlling the violence that children are exposed to.

These days a lot of violence is hitching a ride on the information superhighway. Parents are concerned about the violent influences of the Internet. A recent poll shows that 75 percent of high school students believe the Internet responsible for the shootings in Littleton.

I propose that Internet service providers be required to provide their customers with the necessary filtering software. The other body has already approved legislation to that end. I urge my colleagues in the House to do the same.

In the interim, I would like to draw Members' attention to my web site. It is Family Internet Toolbox, which of-

fers software, tips, and links to safer surfing at www.house.gov/rholt. I hope Members and their constituents will find it useful.

REPUBLICANS BELIEVE THAT LOW TAXES ARE FAIRER THAN HIGH TAXES, AND PEOPLE SHOULD BE ENTITLED TO THE FRUITS OF THEIR LABOR

(Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland. Mr. Speaker, too many Americans liberals have a strange concept of fairness. When it comes to taxes, the liberals' idea of fairness strikes me and most Americans as very unfair.

If one person works twice as hard as another, most people do not think it is unfair if he earns twice as much. A liberal would disagree. As a matter of fact, the liberal tends to demonize the harder working person.

Most people do not think it is unfair that people who sacrifice income through long and difficult years in college and even graduate school expect to find jobs which pay higher than other jobs for their efforts. Yet, we find liberals constantly railing against people who are rewarded for their educational sacrifices as the rich, and presumably not entitled to the rewards they worked so hard to obtain.

I find the tax on the rich and any class of people profoundly un-American.

Republicans believe that low taxes, low taxes on all Americans, rich or poor, are more fair than high taxes. Should not freedom mean that people are entitled to the fruits of their labor?

CHARACTER EDUCATION

(Mr. ETHERIDGE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ETHERIDGE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call on this House to pass a new investment in character education. As the former superintendent of my State schools, I know firsthand that character education can make a difference in teaching our children values and to make sure our children are well rounded and prepared to become good citizens.

Across my Congressional District, school leaders have developed character education initiatives that can make a difference in strong schools and better communities. In Wake County, North Carolina, they have become a leader through an innovative effort called "Uniting for Character." In Johnston County, the principal of Selma Elementary School attributes 59 fewer suspensions between the '95 and '96 school years due to their character